

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 00198 180720Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOTE-00 STE-01 AGRE-00
/054 W

-----039234 181053Z /17

R 180600Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7324
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA POUCH
AMEMBASSY KIGALI POUCH
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 0198

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELTN, EWWT, TZ
SUBJECT: TANZANIA TO RAISE PORT CHARGES FOR ZAMBIAN CARO

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 0084

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PORT CONGESTION AT DAR ES SALAAM, DESCRIBED REFTTEL, REMAINS SERIOUS. TRANSPORT ORGANIZATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE REDUCE PILE-UP OF CARGO IN PORT AREA. PRIVATE TRUCK TRANSPORTERS HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO ZAM TAN ROAD SERVICE INVITATION TO HELP CLEAR BACKLOG, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER 3-MONTH CONTRACT PERIOD TOO SHORT AND THE DELAYS IN RECEIVING PAYMENT FROM ZAMBIA TOO LONG.

2. DURING PAST WEEK ZAMBIAN DELEGATION HEADED BY PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER, MWALE, INSPECTED PORT AND DISCUSSED WITH TANGOV WAYS OF RELIEVING CONGESTION. MWALE ANNOUNCED THAT ZAMBIA RAILWAYS WOULD LOAN TAZARA ONE THOUSAND FREIGHT CARS AND THAT ZAMBIA
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PAGE 02 DAR ES 00198 180720Z

WOULD EXPEDITE RELEASE OF 950 TAZARA CARS CURRENTLY HELD UP IN ZAMBIA.

3. ACCORDING 15 JAN. PRESS, TANZANIAN TRANSPORT MINISTER JAMAL HAD "SERIOUS RESERVATIONS" ABOUT ZAMBIAN PROPOSALS AND QUESTIONED ZAMBIA'S TRAFFIC ASSUMPTIONS AND ITS ABILITY TO FOLLOW THROUGH. JAMAL ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL OF SPECIAL PORT PRIVILEGES

GIVEN ZAMBIA. FOR PAST TWELVE YEARS ZAMBIAN CARGO WAS SUBJECT TO ONLY NOMINAL DEMURRAGE CHARGES OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR PROBLEMS CAUSED BY RHODESIAN UDI. NORMAL RATE AT DAR PORT FOR CARGO UNCLEARED IN FOUR DAYS IS \$1.50 PER DAY PER TON. ZAMBIAN CARGO WAS GIVEN 20 DAYS GRACE WITH CHARGE OF TWELVE CENTS PER DAY PER TON THEREAFTER. FOR SIX MONTHS EFFECTIVE 1 JULY TANGOV WILL CHARGE HALF THE NORMAL RATE. BEGINNING 1979 ZAMBIA WILL HAVE TO PAY THE FULL RATE. HARBOR AUTHORITY ALSO CALLING FOR REVIEW OF SPECIAL LOW PORT RATES ON ZAMBIAN COPPER AND INTRODUCTION OF TRANSFER CHARGES ON DOUBLE-HANDLED ZAMBIAN CARGO. END UNCLASSIFIED

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT. DAR ES SALAAM PORT PROBLEM COULD COMPOUND ALREADY STRAINED TANZANIAN-ZAMBIAN RELATIONS. COVERAGE OF PORT CONGESTION IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PRESS HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE AND HAS DRAWN ATTENTION PUBLICLY FOR FIRST TIME TO ZAMBIA'S PREVIOUS PORT PRIVILEGES. IMPLICATION OF PRESS COVERAGE IS THAT ZAMBIA TOOK ADVANTAGE OF ITS FAVORABLE TERMS, LEAVING EXCESSIVE CARGOES AROUND THE HARBOR BECAUSE OF LOW COSTS. ALTHOUGH SOME ZAMBIANS MAY CLAIM PHASING OUT OF FAVORED STATUS IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF PROFITEERING IN FACE ZAMBIA'S DIFFICULTIES, TANZANIANS SEE MOVE AS REQUIRED TO OFFSET INCREASED COSTS CAUSED BY ZAMBIA'S FAILURE EXPEDITE PORT CLEARANCE AND TO STIMULATE ZAMBIA INTO ACTION.
WALKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORT CHARGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DARES00198
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780026-0641
Format: TEL
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780151/aaaabqwf.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b9b7cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 DAR ES SALAAM 84
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3757384
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TANZANIA TO RAISE PORT CHARGES FOR ZAMBIAN CARO
TAGS: ELTN, EWWT, TZ, ZA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b9b7cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014